



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

February 10, 2011

DAVE SYVERSON, TREASURER
ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN PARTY
P.O. BOX 64897
CHICAGO, IL 60664

Response Due Date
03/17/2011

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00005926

REFERENCE: 30 DAY POST-GENERAL REPORT (10/14/2010 - 11/22/2010)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 2 item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(f) and 11 CFR §110.2(d) prohibit a State, district or local party committee (combined) from receiving any contribution from a multicandidate political committee in excess of \$5,000 per calendar year.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount. The funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt you (1) transferred the excessive amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

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2. Schedule A supporting Line 12 of your report discloses transfers from apparent joint fundraising committees. In addition, your report includes memo entries on Schedule A for what appears to be your committee's share of the gross contributions received through these joint fundraising efforts. Please amend your report to clearly identify on the Schedule A, which joint fundraising committee each memo entry relates to.

3. Schedule B of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payment(s) to any one vendor by the staff aggregates \$200 or more for the calendar year, the payment(s) must be itemized as a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must clarify this in an amendment to this report. 11 CFR §300.36(b) and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3

4. Please clarify all expenditures made for "Equipment Rental," "State Fair Equipment Rental" and "State Fair Food & Beverages" on Schedule(s) H4. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B, E, or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

5. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "State Fair Banner". Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(1), expenditures for public communications (as defined by 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any such candidate for Federal office must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Only federal funds may be used.

Further, expenditures and disbursements for public communications that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on

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Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s). However, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity or provide clarifying information.

If this activity was categorized incorrectly, the Commission recommends that you immediately transfer the funds received by your federal account for this activity back to the non-federal account. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

6. Schedule L-B supporting Line 5 of Schedule L of your report discloses \$27,390.00 in disbursements for "FEA Trvl & Mls-no vend. itemiz. req," which appears to be a payment(s) made for Federal Election Activity with 100% Levin funds. Please be advised that a State, district, or local committee of a political party may pay for allocable Federal Election Activity expenses either entirely with Federal funds or with an allocation of Federal and Levin funds. It appears you have used impermissible funds to pay for this allocable Federal Election Activity. 11 CFR §300.32(c)(4)

Please be advised that 11 CFR §102.5 prohibits a non-federal or Levin account from financing activity in connection with federal elections. The Commission recommends that you immediately transfer the federal portion of this allocable Federal Election Activity to your non-federal or Levin account and disclose this transaction as a transfer-out on Schedule B supporting Line 22 of the Detailed Summary Page, and as a receipt on Schedule L-A supporting Line 2 of Schedule L, or provide clarifying information regarding the apparent impermissible payment(s).

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the activity conducted by your non-federal or Levin account, any clarifying information that you can provide will be taken into consideration.

7. Schedule LB of your report discloses \$16,000 in payments for "FEA Cnsltng. Political Grassroots" to individuals. Please clarify whether these individuals are employees of your committee. You are advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than

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25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal Election Activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal, non-federal and Levin accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal or Levin account for salary and wage payments is not permissible and must be returned. Please provide clarification regarding these payments.

8. Schedule L-B of your report discloses a payment(s) for "FEA Cnslting, Political Grassroots," "FEA Party Printing" and "FEA Travel Exp. Reimbursement". Please be advised that 11 CFR §100.24(b) defines as Federal Election Activity ("FEA"), Voter identification, Generic Campaign and Get-out-the vote activities conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot. Furthermore, the costs for these types of Federal Election Activity must either be paid with federal funds or can be allocated between federal and Levin funds as long as the activity conducted does not refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office. It appears that **the disclosed activity may be a payment for Federal Election Activity** and that you have paid for this activity with 100% Levin funds. Please provide clarifying information regarding this activity. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this apparent prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

9. Schedule L-B supporting Line 5 of Schedule L of your report discloses a \$5,000.00 disbursement to the "Illinois Republican Party" for "ACA PAC Dep. In Wrong Acct." Previously filed reports by your committee do not appear to disclose the original receipt of the apparent impermissible contribution on Schedule L-A. Please amend the report covering the period during which the transaction occurred to disclose the receipt of these funds.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

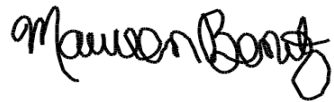
Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please

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contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1147.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maureen Benitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Maureen" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Benitz".

Maureen Benitz
Senior Campaign Finance and Reviewing Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Excessive Contribution From a Committee/Individual:

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
The Freedom Project	11/1/10	\$5,000	2010 30 Day Post-General
The Freedom Project	11/15/10	\$5,000	2010 30 Day Post-General